



#6 2615
3-15-04

03500.014334.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Vincent F. Boccio
KENICHIRO ONO, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2615
Application No.: 09/516,115)
: Filed: March 1, 2000)
: For: INFORMATION PROCESSING)
: APPARATUS, METHOD)
: THEREOF AND MEMORY)
: MEDIUM STORING)
: INFORMATION PROCESSING)
: PROGRAMS)
: Monday, March 1, 2004

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

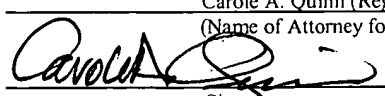
Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement dated January 29, 2004,
Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the Species I claims, namely Claims 1 to
15, 22, 23, 25 and 26. Claims 1 to 15, 22, 23, 25 and 26 are also believed to be generic to
Species I and II.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Monday, March 1, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

Carole A. Quinn (Reg. No. 39,000)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


Signature

Monday, March 1, 2004
Date of Signature

Applicants traverse the requirement for an election of species on the grounds that there would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to examine the four species in a single application. In particular, it is Applicants' prerogative to present claims directed to a "reasonable" number of species in a single application. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. In this application, four species have been identified by the Examiner, which is believed to be fully "reasonable" and further is not believed to be unduly burdensome on the Examiner. In addition and based on the presence of claims generic to Species I and II, it is believed that there would be no additional burden at all. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Election Requirement are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 39,000

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